

MID-TERM POLL IN ORISSA

Forge Unity to Defeat Reaction

The mid-term election in Orissa comes off on February 24 next. This is not the first time for Orissa to face such a mid-term election. Many a time, during the last 27 years of independence the people of this State have witnessed the entrance and exit of one after another party or combination of parties in the Government.

Governments formed by the Congress, Ganatantra (now turned Swatantra), Jana Congress-Swatantra, Utkal Congress-Swatantra-Jharkhand ministries appeared on the scene and then went out each time adding further to the miseries of the common people. The economic, cultural and educational life of the people suffered immensely and have deteriorated day by day.

Industrial development in the State has been practically nil, and, in spite of its vast mineral and forest wealth, Orissa is yet to find a place in the industrial map of India after all these 27 years of independence.

The picture is the same in the agricultural sphere also. Although rivers and rivulets abound in Orissa, agriculture suffers every year either because of drought or because of flood as there is practically no river control measure or well-coordinated irrigation project. Crop failure is an annual feature causing recurring famine and starvation deaths of millions of people.

The employment position is no less gloomy. Lakhs of unemployed and under-employed people—literate and illiterate—are rotting in towns and villages.

This all-pervading economic crisis has reached its apex with prices of each and every essential commodity soaring ever higher beyond the reach of the common masses.

Crises in the educational and cultural field are also running apace with the fast deteriorating economic and political situation. To curb the number of educated

unemployed the Administration has been persistently following the policy of curtailment of education instead of expanding the scope of education.

None of the Congress and non-Congress governments have ever attempted to take any bold step to solve any one of the above problems; rather, each of them have only contributed their mite to hasten further deterioration of the situation.

This, in short, is the background, in which the present mid-term election is going to be held. And hectic political activities are already afoot among the political parties and forces in the state to prepare for the election battle. On the one hand, there is the Congress Party representing the aggregate interest of the Indian capitalist class and on the other hand there is the Pragati Party—a united front of Swatantra Party and Utkal Congress—the parties representing the interests of the individual capitalists, different capitalist groups and the former Rajas. Apart from these, there is the Vishal Utkal Parishad as also the various Left parties contesting the elections.

The CPI, in accordance with its all-India policy, is busy in coming into an understanding with the Congress Party in this State also. The SSP has already declared its intention to go along with the Pragati Party.

The Orissa State Committee of the SUCI has been persistently endeavouring to develop a united front of all the Left and democratic

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All India D.S.O. Conference

12th, 13th and 14th January '74.

Open Session :

12th January, Saturday. at

GOPABANDHU BAG (Cuttack)

Main Speaker : **Com. Shibdas Ghosh**, Eminent Marxist Philosopher.

Chief Guest : **Sri Nabakrushna Chowdhury**, Ex-Chief Minister of Orissa.

President : **Com. Subodh Banerjee**, Ex-UF Minister of West Bengal.

Others to address : **Com. Ohm Prakash Suman** (Delhi), **Com. Chhaya Mukherjee** (W. Bengal), **Com. R. Prabir** (Kerala), **Com. Kantimoy Deb** (Assam), **Com. Lal Singh** (Haryana), **Com. Dwarika Rath** (Orissa) and **Com. Rabindra Singh** (Bihar).

Delegate Session at

BARBATI STADIUM (Cuttack)

Urgent Circular to all Units of AIDSO

(i) Those units who have not still informed their number of delegates and have not sent delegate fees must immediately inform their number of delegates including number of girl delegates and send delegate fees to the central office so as to reach this office positively by 7th instant.

(ii) All delegates should bring their beddings.

(iii) Delegates must turn up at Cuttack by 11th night or at the latest by 12th morning.

(iv) Reception Committee Office will be operating from 11th morning at Cuttack station and delegates must report there immediately after arrival.

(v) South Indian delegates are to directly report at Cuttack station, Reception Committee Camps will operate at Howrah and Kharagpur station on 10th and 11th January for delegates from North, Central and East India proceeding via Howrah and Kharagpur. They must contact those camps.

(vi) Central office should be informed before hand of particulars of trains and timings of reaching at Howrah and Kharagpur station by different delegate teams.

(vii) Delegates who will start from Howrah and Kharagpur should note the following time table :

Up trains	Dept. from Howrah	Arriving Kharagpur
Puri Passenger	12-30 p. m.	3-30 p. m.
Madras Mail	6-35 p. m.	8-30 p. m.
Madras Janata	10-00 p. m.	1-15 a. m.
Puri Express	8-15 p. m.	10-15 p. m.

CPM MUST SHUN OPPORTUNISM

(Contd from Page one)

parties and forces in the State on the basis of an agreed minimum common programme, with a view to completely isolating the Congress Party politically, thereby ensuring its complete defeat in the ensuing election. The SUC proposed that the Left and democratic parties should, first of all, unite to form a Left United Front on the basis of an agreed minimum common programme and negotiations for adjustment of seats with other non-Congress parties outside the front should be initiated only after the formation of such a front.

But this proposal of the SUC Orissa State Committee has fallen on deaf ears. The CPI(M), consistent to its all India policy, has rejected this proposal of the SUCI to develop a united front of Left and democratic parties. But, both the CPI(M) and the Socialist Party had agreed to negotiate electoral adjustments and a number of meetings have also been held with the SUCI in this regard.

When these negotiations were in the mid-way, it was revealed that the CPI(M) leaders had been carrying on clandestine arrangements with the Pragati Party for adjustment of seats and already the Pragati Party had agreed to vacate certain seats in favour of the CPI(M).

At this point, Comrade Tapas Dutta, on behalf of the Orissa State Committee of the SUCI, wrote a letter to the CPI(M) State Secretary in which he alleged that... "from different circles, we have definite information that, in contravention to these agreed principles, your party is busy making a clandestine arrangement of seats with the Pragati Party and, that too, at the back of other fraternal parties. And that this information was not a rumour, was clear and confirmed when a representative of your party, in one of

the joint meetings revealed that your party has already made adjustments for two seats with Pragati Party. This is quite surprising and shocking."

But that letter of Comrade Dutta failed to arouse the conscience of the CPI(M) leaders of the State who continued their clandestine dialogue with the Pragati leaders.

Even after all these developments the State Committee of the SUCI continued its endeavour to bring all the Left and democratic parties in the State including the the CPI(M) and the Socialist Party closer through negotiations for adjustment of seats and accord was reached with others in case of all seats except that of Rourkela.

The CPI(M) had contested the claim of the SUCI on the Rourkela seat although it is a fact known to all that the SUCI has a far stronger and broader organisation than the CPI(M) in Rourkela and in the two previous elections the votes secured by the SUC candidates were far greater in number than that secured by CPI(M) candidates.

We have always held that whenever there would be more than one claimant for a seat, the dispute should be settled on the basis of factual assessment of respective organisational strength of the contenders.

According to the existing agreed principle of resolving the dispute on the basis of result in the previous election too, it can not be denied that the Rourkela seats should go to the SUC. And yet, the CPI(M) is still unwilling to withdraw its claim over this seat.

Even inspite of such adamant attitude of the CPI(M) leaders the talks between the three parties were continuing and in the meeting held last October it was decided that the CPI(M) and the SUC would try to arrive at a mutual agreement on the Rourkela seat through

bilateral talks.

But we are astonished at a report published in the Dak edition of the Hindusthan Standard of December 26 last wherein it was stated that Mr Promode Dasgupta a member of the CPI(M) Politbureau has said "that his party in Orissa would have no electoral alliance with any political party but was likely to make some electoral adjustments with the Socialist Party only."

When the negotiation between the three parties was still in progress, such an utterance of Mr Das Gupta (if the report of Hindusthan Standard is true) has no doubt, went against the interest of unity and only helped the Congress and other reactionary parties and forces.

In the meantime, Mr Biju Patnaik, the leader of the Pragati Party, has repeatedly announced that there is a great possibility of his party fighting the election unitedly with the Socialist Party, the CPI(M) and the Jharkhand Party. The Executive of the Socialist Party has already given the green signal to its Orissa State Committee to negotiate electoral adjustments with the Pragati Party. On the other hand the

CPI(M), not withstanding its public denial, is trying to come into clandestine arrangements with the Pragati Party.

Even after all these developments, the SUC feels there is still time for the CPI(M) to abjure its disruptionist policy and come forward, in the interest of united left movement, to form a Left united front against the ruling Congress and the arch-reactionary Pragati Party in Orissa.

While declaring its firm determination to strive for the formation of such a Left united Front, the Orissa State Committee of the SUCI calls upon all Left and democratic forces to shun all petty considerations and opportunist interests and come forward to build up the Left United Front—the need of the hour.

LATE NEWS

We received the copy of the statement issued by the CPI(M), Orissa State Committee, where it has now officially declared its policy of making adjustments with Pragati Party (Published in Hindusthan Standard 1.1.74 (Dak Edition) which proved our contention of its "arrangement" with the Pragati Party, 'so long pursued in a clandestine way and persistently denied by CPI(M) leadership. (Contd. to Page 5)

Massive Rally at Rourkela

Under the joint auspices of SUCI, Sundargar District Committee, Rourkela Workers Union, Rourkela Engineering Union, K.K.M.S. and D.S.O. two processions, one from Industrial Estate, Rourkela with more than 1500 workers and peasants starting from Industrial Estate passed through Pansposh-Rourkela Main Road to the Addl. District Magistrate's Office and submitted a "memorandum" to be submitted to the Governor of Orissa.

A gathering of 4000 workers, peasants and public the meeting was held under the Presidentship of Comrade G. N. Tripathy. Different speakers, Comrade B. P. Das, Vice-President of Rourkela Workers Union, Com. P. C. Singh, Vice-President of Rourkela Engineering Worker Union, Com. R. C. Pandit of R. E. W. U., Com. D. D. Pattaniak of R. W. H., Com. Silwanti Kerketta of R. E. W. U., Com. Sk.

Quasim Secretary of Orissa Cement Workers Union of Rajganpur and Com. Bishnupada Das, member of the Secretariat of D.S.O. spoke in the meeting. All of them demanded the release of Comrade B. Jena arrested under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (M.I.S.A) and also condemned the Government for its anti-people, anti-worker policy and for curbing the democratic and Trade Union rights.

A Review of the Reserve Bank Report

The Reserve Bank of India has held the Government's economic and fiscal policies mainly responsible for "the severe and unabated pressure on the General Price level", in its annual report for 1972-73. Commenting on the price situation, the report holds that "the uptrend was not a transient or seasonal phenomenon" but on the contrary, "a variety of physical and monetary factors were operating together to create a climate favourable to price inflation". This observation of the R.B.I. in other words corroborates the views and various analyses our party has been presenting to the country umpteen times in the past as well as at the present moment.

The Report therefore has placed before us, certain materials, data and few observations which coming as they are from a Government agency like R.B.I. are like an approver's confession of guilt before the court and thus lays bare the deceit and hollowness of the so-called 'left postures' and 'progressive' policies (!) of the ruling party and its Government.

It can not be expected that the report of a Government agency will tell the people the basic truth which our party alone in the country has been trying to hammer home from a revolutionary standpoint. The basic truth is that the malaise that grips the economy in particular and the overall crises of the society encompassing social, cultural and political fields are nothing but symptoms of a disease. The disease is this capitalist economy operating in our country which is moribund in the present historical background and can not solve the basic problems of life. Historically speaking, it is just counting the days of being knocked out by the mighty blow of revolutionary upsurge of the proletariat and other exploited classes. And this alone by consolidating the political power into the hands of the working class can remove an obsolete economic and social order that works as a brake to revolutionary changes of the society which in the present context mean in concrete terms, uninterrupted industrial progress and moder-

nisation of agriculture. These historic tasks now devolves upon the working class and its party with the help of a real socialist state machinery that can come into existence after successful completion of a socialist revolution in our country.

It is no wonder therefore that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the leader and teacher of such a revolutionary party and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the age, from his revolutionary wisdom and insight cautioned some two decades ago, the working people of the country never to pin any hope on the so-called planning and economic policies of the ruling party of the national bourgeoisie however coated with half socialistic jargons and luring promises, they may be. Rather, he clearly pointed out that planning in a capitalist economy was not meant to serve the interest of the working people but instead it was a fascistic device to stave off the crisis of the exploiting class and its economic rules. So, the working people can not have a stake in it because instead of bringing freedom from exploitation of capital it will bring more and more grinding oppression and ruthless exploitation. But however the national bourgeoisie may try, their planning must be shadowed with crisis; one crisis leading to a deeper one. By planning what is to be understood from a basic working class standpoint is that faced with the mortal fear of its doom in the parti-

cular historical background when capitalism as a world system has already lost the relative stability of the market and there is sharper and ever sharper fight for the share of market which has therefore as a result become more and more uncertain and in the particular background of capitalist development of Indian economy, the national bourgeoisie are resorting more and more to fascistic devices. Planning in a capitalist state has, as its objects the coalescence of individual monopoly capital with state capital and thereby founding state monopoly capitalism which is the rock-bottom foundation of fascism. Nationalisation of basic industries, trade and commerce are the other devices. But they all have the same class-object which is to minimise the dog-fight between individual monopolist or between their groups thereby centralising and consolidating the existing capital and new capital to subserve the "aggregate class interest" of the monopolists. But inexorable are the laws of society and fascistic devices can not save the capitalist economy from successive crises, one coming after another in wave like fashion, the latter surpassing the former in height and magnitude. How prophetic have been these words of warning of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh!

Let us now revert to the R B I report.

The report says that in the year under review the price situation deteriorated further and at a disconcerting pace "Throughout the year, there was hardly any easing of this pressure and by end June 1973, the General index reached 240.0 recording an increase of 21.7 p. c. over and above 6.8 p. c. increase in the previous year. Group-wise the largest rise took place in the price indices of food articles." It had an increase by 24.2 p.c.

The report, however could not underscore, the basic cause for such steep rise in foodgrains prices as is being done by the ruling party by simply telling the people after 26 years of independence and running a 'national' Government at the Centre that it was all due to two successive crop failures thereby giving the shameful admission that as in the past even today agriculture in our country depends helplessly on the mercy of nature.

The report goes deeper into the problem. It points out:

"In some of the key commodities like foodgrains and edible oil seeds and oils, there has also been a good deal of speculative hoarding which is reflected in lower market arrivals than warranted by the levels of output. The holding power of the richer sections of the farm community has improved as a result of the larger income accruing to them against their marketed products during the past few years." The price index of agricultural commodities have risen by 134 p. c. during the decade, 1961-62 to 1972-73, as against increase in prices of non-agricultural goods by 107 p. c. in the same period. The report, therefore makes this observation: "There is in other words, reasons to believe that in the past few years these had the effect of altering the pattern of income distribution in favour of the rich sections of the farming community."

This explodes the fake claim of the ruling party that it is moving to socialism or that it aims at development with social justice by minimising the disparity in income and economic positions in the society. Facts show the reverse process is in full motion.

It may be recalled in this context that our party closely

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Congress Government's Pro-Capitalist Fiscal Policy revealed

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analysed this phenomenon in socio-economic set up since the national bourgeoisie consolidated their political power in the state machinery and on the basis of concrete analysis of concrete facts has been suggesting that complete state trading of food grains-trade including both whole-sale and retail trade is the only solution to speculative price increases of food grains and resultant sufferings of common people. It is minimum responsibility of any civilised and modern government to supply the food requirements of common people at a stable and fair price and in regularity. This does not require a Government to be a socialist one. For modern bourgeois Governments in Europe and Japan are already doing that much to their people. But strange it may sound nonetheless it is a fact that no other political party has demanded total state trading in food grains trade but only agreed up to the point of Governments take over of whole-sale trade in food grains in line with the ruling party of the national bourgeoisie. This means no solution. Does anybody doubt that the wholesalers will then turn themselves into retailers, overnight as has been the experience after the take over of wholesale trade in wheat? Our party has been consistently clamouring that in the prevailing moral standard of our country, the take-over of the wholesale trade only will end in utter failure. Moreover the take-over of both whole-sale and retail trade will make the Government directly responsible to feed the people and the present practice of shirking the responsibility by blaming the black marketeers and hoarders will end and the Government will also be able to have a proper

assessment of actual deficit in food grains in our country. But still then, parties like CPI and CPI(M) are dead set against complete state trading, uttering the same excuses of want of machinery etc as is being done by the ruling Congress.

The RBI report is however explicit, this time on the issue.

It says: "organisational and penal measures have to be taken to curb the speculative and corrupt practices which exaggerate the price effect of supply shortages and render equitable distribution through public agencies difficult." and as such "it is inevitable that any policy of combining price stability with development should be based on a continuing machinery for controlled distribution of certain essential commodities, particularly relevant for food articles where fluctuations from year to year cannot be avoided and buffer stock operations have to be combined with organisation of a wide-spread public distribution system."

The bourgeois rulers and bourgeois apologists often cry hoarse that the present crisis is due to shortage of production and so they pour advice on the countrymen to work hard and produce more. But this is totally incorrect. It has been seen even in the years when there was bumper production and there was no real shortage, that the hoarders, speculators and the blackmarketeers, corner food grain and other essential commodities to create artificial scarcity in the market. So, the main question at the present moment is the question of distribution of food articles and other essential commodities. But even if a proper distribution system is evolved the increasing demand can become only met by increased production. For stability between demand and supply what is wanted is

stepped up production. For this, a thorough agrarian reform including modernisation in the method and technique of production is essential. But here is the rub. The ruling bourgeoisie dare not attempt it on a wide scale but restricts it in 5 to 10 p. c. of the total cultivable fields. Tens of thousands of rural people some how engaged in land will be rendered unemployed at a single stroke through introduction of machine in agriculture. They just do not like to accentuate the already critical unemployment problem by adding millions of rural unemployed to the swelling numbers of jobless in the urban sector. Besides, from a petty political angle, they make compromise with the rural bourgeoisie by not strictly enforcing ceiling law on landholding and redistributing the surplus lands now under illegal possession of the Kulaks to the rural poor; but the former is the historic limitation of the bourgeoisie as a class in the relatively less developed capitalist country, but the latter is the limitation in political grip of the bourgeois party in our country in the present epoch.

Now the question of industrial production. In today's bourgeois economy one often comes across the peculiar phenomenon termed as stagflation. It means the economy is under chronic stagnation associated with price inflation.

Now is the period when capitalism is in its third phase of general crisis. It has lost relative stability of market. Market has become very much uncertain. But due to technical development, installed productive capacity is uncomfortably high. Financial oligarchy grips the entire economy under the tentacles. So, the dichotomy of capitalist system, increasing productive power and ever decreasing purchasing power of the working people express

itself in acute crisis of market resulting in wastage of productive power, talents and scientific achievements of a society. This is particularly true for our country where the internal market is not so large due to relative under development and it is still moreshrinking. Further there is no compensating external market in the face of cut throat competitions over its share among the giant capitalist countries.

Inflation in a stagnant capitalist economy is therefore both a device as well as a result. It is a device of the Government subserving the interest of the monopolist to create artificial stimulation to quote the expression of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to the staggish industries by acting as the biggest purchaser. It is a result in view of the fact that the monopolists hold the sway over the entire market and maximisation of profit is their rule of the game. So, there is less and lesser numbers of buyers but more and more is the rate of profit. This, however does not solve the problem but generates deeper crisis. The shrinking market shrinks further and again there is crisis of market at a higher magnitude. This social truism could not be denied by the R.B.I. in its report.

It says, "A part of the demand pressure experienced in 1972-73, has it is true emanated from the Governments attempt to raise the tempo of development activities in the past two years."

But besides "causing capacity shortages, inadequate investment in the past years has led to insufficient utilisation of the capacity already in several basic and capital good industries."

Again: This slow pace of investment was a consequence essentially of stagnation in public sector investments."

So the R.B.I report holds: The present upurge in prices is thus attributable
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Implement all-out State-Trading in food-grains

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in the first place to the proximate cause of imbalance between the market supply and demand and secondly to the longer-term factor of low investment and inadequate rate of growth."

The report, however has made a very cruel joke on the Government's efforts to create 'artificial stimulation' of market. It says, "The problems arising out from supply shortage were compounded by a very substantial increase in money supply during the year, on top of the large monetary expansion that had occurred during 1971-72."

Apart from providing huge money capital in the form of compensation to the coalmines owners, the Government resorted to heavy rate of expenditures. These expenditures were met by deficit financing. The magnitude of this deficit financing can be understood by recalling the facts that in 1972-73, in the revised estimate it was as high as Rs. 882 crores in place of budgeted figure of Rs. 550 crores. This was over and above Rs. 421 crores provided by the Centre to the states to clear their overdrafts with R.B.I. Added to this aggregate is the figure of Rs. 812 crores in 1971-72 which had a delayed effect.

But have these staggering amount of government spending at the expense of inflating the money base out of gear and consequently at tremendous cost of people's suffering been of any sustaining relief to the crisis ridden industries? Woe to them. The answer is in the negative! The report, bemoans that the increased growth rate (6.6% writer) in the year could not have any noticeable impact on the widening gulf between aggregate demand and aggregate supply of the society. Not only this, the RBI will have to report, next year, the rate of growth in industrial output has been in the stead

dwindle during 1973-74 even in the context of large imports of food and a good harvest. The growth figure so far published shows that it would in all probability fail even to cross 2% increase mark!

Next comes the question of the Government's tax policy. The report gives the figures. Tax revenue now constitutes 16.2% of national income in place of 10.2% a decade back. But national income is a misnomer. It does not reveal the truth. Truth is total tax collection now reaches Rs 6408 crores from Rs 1355 crores in 1960-61. Out of this figure more than 85% comes from the common people by way of indirect taxes in the forms of excise duties on daily necessary consumer articles and raw materials for industries and customs only etc. These taxes are meant for payment by the industrialists but instead of paying they make a plea for price increase, two fold, three fold of the impost to bag super-profit at the cost of common people's mounting burden of hardships. The bourgeois Government of our country which is adept in phrase mongering fails even to maintain the bourgeois norms in tax policy usually adhered to by other bourgeois Governments. But, instead, shamelessly resorts more and more to indirect taxes to collect money to feed the industrialists, traders and merchants with subsidies, subventions and so many economic concessions. Even in 1972-73 93.6 p.c. of the anticipated additional revenue was set for being met by indirect taxes. Such is the real face of the so called "progressive policies" of the Government!

The RBI is however reticent about its own performances in regard to checking flow of bank advances and credits to the traders for speculatively purposes particularly in food grains trade. The report however, could

not entirely windowdress the figures. It says that from 2.2 p.c. in March 68' it was 6.8 p.c. of total bank credits that went to agricultural sector. Who were the beneficiaries? Not the poor farmers but the jotedars.

The volume of credits provided to jotedars and traders in consumer goods can be somewhat measured from some of the figures given in the report. Advances for agricultural purposes (mostly to jotedars—writer) in the month of December 72 were Rs 42,957 lakhs from public sector banks. Direct finance to farmer (again mostly jotedars—writer) amounted to Rs 26,968 lakhs from public sector banks and Rs. 31,052 Lakhs from Scheduled Banks. For retail trade and small business the amounts were, Rs 87,110 lakhs and Rs 10,368 lakhs respectively. All these figures were for December

That, whatever may be purposes for which the advances were sought and granted, most of which was being used for speculative purposes, has been admitted by the fact that RBI had to issue to the banks on 14th May 73' the directives to see that no loan was outstanding in favour of wholesale traders or retail traders in wheat except those having licenses from concerned Governments. and (ii) secondly, advances to retail traders were confined only upto the limit of stocks authorised to hold.

Let alone, the fraud of 'limit of stock' which is generally as much as one can hold either directly or by manipulation as also the question of licensed dealer who are mainly responsible for speculative spurt in prices of food grains the fact that RBI bureaucrats were the gentle pageboys of rural bourgeoisie and trading community like the Government

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All India D S O Conference Com. Provash Ghosh's Press Conference

Cuttack Dec 22—The three-day All-India students conference organised by All India Democratic Students Organisation beginning here from January 12 will demand allotment of a minimum of 10 per cent of the Central budget for education. It will suggest substantial cuts in police and defence budgets and diversion of the funds to education.

Stating this at a press conference here, yesterday Com Provash Ghose, General Secretary AIDS O said that more than two thousand delegates from all over the country were expected to attend the conference.

Com. Ghose said that among other things the conference would demand introduction of free education upto higher secondary level, curbing of education curtailment policy of the Government, stoppage of police entry into educational institutions and replacement of 10+2+3 course by 10+2+2 course. It would resist National Service Scheme. It would urge for introduction of secular, scientific and well co-ordinated syllabus. The conference would also demand concession of student's right to

form unions in all educational institutions, student participation in all education administering bodies, introduction of uniform education pattern and retention of English as the link language and imparting education through regional language.

LATE NEWS

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Regarding Rourkela seat the CPI(M) leadership being unable to counter our argument about our justified claim has taken a dubious way of contesting the seat in the name of supporting an independent candidate.

Thus, the CPI(M) by their arrangement with the Pragati Party and also by supporting an independent candidate at Rourkela has frustrated our attempts of forming a Left and Democratic Front consisting of SUCL, SP and CPI(M), and virtually strengthened the reactionary forces.

Massive Rally At Muzaffarpur

Muzaffarpur, Dec. 24: A massive meeting was held at the Town Hall here today under the auspices of the Muzaffarpur District SUCI.

Braving cold wave and despite the fact that it was the harvesting period, several thousand peasants from neighbouring villages joined the meeting. A colourful rostrum, decorated with a big hammer-sickle-star emblem symbolised the workers-peasants' alliance under the revolutionary leadership of the SUCI.

The Town Hall was overflowing long before the meeting started. Workers, peasants, students, teachers middle class intelligentsia thronged in and around the hall to hear for the first time Comrade Shibdas Ghosh the great leader of the international Communist movement, the leader, teacher and General Secretary of our party. Comrade Ghosh, who was the main speaker at the meeting, was welcomed by the massive gathering with thunderous applause amidst slogans like "Long live Com Shibdas Ghosh", "Long live revolution", "Long live SUC".

Comrade Ghosh, in his long speech, dwelt elaborately on the present economic situation and explained how the present economic crisis has developed following twenty six years' pro-capitalist policies pursued by the Congress Party, which represented the aggregate interest of the Indian capitalist class. Com Ghosh showed how monopoly capital has developed with the steady growth and development of Indian capitalism. He explained how Indian capitalist state—with the growth of monopoly capital and state monopoly capital subserving the interests of the monopolists in the field of economy with increasing centralisation and consolidation of political and administrative power,

by curbing all basic democratic rights, and, in the cultural field developing a fascist outlook through the fusion of religious preachings and technological aspect of science is fast developing itself as a fascist state.

In this context, Com Ghosh discussed the question of nationalisation in a capitalist State and showed how the bourgeoisie, in its attempt to consolidate capitalist economy on the face of increasing crisis and internal contradiction, take recourse to nationalisation which, under capitalist system only strengthens the foundation of fascism.

Coming to the acute economic crisis now sweeping over the country, Com Ghosh enumerated the three basic problems facing Indian capitalism viz. the growing unemployment, the question of modernisation of agriculture and that of uninterrupted industrialisation and explained how the existing capitalist system is acting as a stumbling block in resolving those problems. These questions, he said, can only be solved by replacing the capitalist system with a socialist system, which can be achieved only through a revolution.

Here Com. Ghosh explained the roles of different petty bourgeois social democratic parties like the CPI(M) etc. and urged upon the workers, peasants, intelligentsia to rally round the SUCI, the only revolutionary party of the Indian working class.

The meeting was presided over by Comrade P. Chanda, a member of the Central Committee of the SUCI. Comrade N. R. Singh, a member of the Bihar State Committee and a well known leader of the district, also addressed the gathering.

After the meeting a mammoth peasants rally paraded the streets of the town.

WEST BENGAL STATE D. S. O. CONFERENCE

The West Bengal State Conference of DSO was held on 15th and 16th December at Berhampore in the district of Murshidabad with great success. The great success of this conference is undoubtedly a big event in the history of the student movement in the state. More than twenty thousand students and common people participated in the open session and more than fifteen hundred delegates participated in the delegate session. Such a

massive student gathering is unprecedented in the history of Berhampur.

Com Protiva Mukherjee, the Chief Guest and the ex-Minister of the U. F. Government addressed the gathering.

Com Subodh Banerjee, a prominent public leader, who was the main speaker in the meeting, analysed the root causes of the problems of education in our country and showed how capitalism was creating all round crisis in our all walks of life.

School of Politics at Muzaffarpur

The Muzaffarpur District Committee of the SUC organised a three day School of Politics from 25th to 27th December at Muzaffarpur town. Despite disruption in railway communication more than 300 party workers from different places joined the School of Politics.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the leader, teacher and General Secretary of our party, conducted the discussion at the school. Among the subjects he discussed was, how Marxism emerged as a full-fledged science in course of gradual development of different branches of science. He also explained the growth and backgrounds of development of different schools of philosophy. He explained how Marxist philosophy developed through concrete application of Marxism on concrete situation. He explained why the phase of revolution in India is Socialist Revolution(SR) and showed why the CPI's thesis of National Democratic Revolution (NDR) or the CPI(M)'s thesis of People's Democratic Revolution (PDR) will only lead the Indian masses to wilderness and thus help consolidate Indian capitalism. He explained the non-communist character of the CPI and the CPI(M) and called upon all to strengthen the SUCI the real working class party in India.

Reserve Bank Report

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it criticises in the report.

From the excerpts of the report on relevant questions, it would now be obvious that our party, long before diagnosed the ills of the economy taking all the concrete facts into close scrutiny and provided to the people the only solution under the existing socio-economic set up that can give some amount of relief. It is complete state trading including retail trade in food grains as a first step and then to bring all essential consumer goods under its pervue that can alone provide minimum needs of essential commodities to the people at a stable and fair price and in regularity.

This measure will provide relief to the people to a certain extent but the basic problem of the economy can not be solved through palliatives and the people have to realise that the root of all the problems of their life is the present capitalist system and so unless the capitalist state machine is smashed and socialism is established no problem of life will be solved. So in order to lead the anti-capitalist movement to successful end the people must organise themselves under a revolutionary party and build up mighty mass movements.